

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-29 Cancelled.

30. (New) A carrying case comprising:

an enclosure defining an interior and having a substantially planar front wall, a substantially planar back wall, and an opening that provides access to said interior; and

a handle including first and second handle portions each comprising a first segment rotatably mounted on said enclosure on opposite sides of said opening, respectively, and a second segment connecting opposite ends of said first segment, said second segments having central longitudinal axes, respectively, defining parallel axes about which said first segments are rotatable, respectively, for movement between an engaged position, wherein said first segments are in abutment, and a fully disengaged position, wherein said first segments are separated from one another,

said first segments having mating surfaces, respectively, of complementary configurations to mate in said engaged position, said ends of each of said first segments curving continuously inwardly and upwardly from said second segments, respectively, in the direction of said opening in said engaged position, whereby said first segments are disposed closely alongside said front and back walls, respectively, in said fully disengaged position.

31. (New) The carrying case of claim 30, wherein said opening is selectively openable and selectively closable.
32. (New) The carrying case of claim 30, wherein said opening comprises a zippered opening.
33. (New) The carrying case of claim 30, wherein said first segments comprise arcuate segments, respectively, and said second segments comprise straight segments, respectively.
34. (New) The carrying case of claim 30, wherein said mating surfaces comprise inner surfaces, respectively, of said first segments.
35. (New) The carrying case of claim 34, wherein said first segments have top surfaces, respectively, joined to said inner surfaces and forming lips, respectively, where said top surfaces join said inner surfaces, said lips being in abutment when said handle portions are in said engaged position.
36. (New) The carrying case of claim 30, wherein said mating surface of said first handle portion is configured as a protuberance and said mating surface of said second handle portion is configured as a cavity for receiving said protuberance.

37. (New) The carrying case of claim 36, wherein said protuberance has a convex curvature and said cavity has a concave curvature resisting disengagement of said first and second handle portions from said engaged position.

38. (New) The carrying case of claim 36, wherein said protuberance is convexly curved and tapers in height and width in the direction of said ends of said first segment of said first handle portion.

39. (New) The carrying case of claim 30, wherein said ends of each of said first segments curve from said second segments, respectively, at about a 45° angle in said engaged position.

40. (New) The carrying case of claim 30, wherein said second segments are mounted within sleeve formations on said enclosure.

41. (New) A carrying case comprising:

an enclosure defining an interior and having a front and back wall and an opening that provides access to said interior; and

a handle including first and second handle portions each comprising a first segment rotatably mounted on said enclosure on opposite sides of said opening, respectively, and a second segment connecting opposite ends of said first segment, said second segments having central longitudinal axes, respectively, defining parallel axes about which said first segments are rotatable, respectively, for movement between an

engaged position, wherein said first segments are in abutment, and a fully disengaged position, wherein said first segments are separated from one another,

said first segments having mating surfaces, respectively, configured to mate in said engaged position, said mating surface of said first handle portion being configured as a protuberance and said mating surface of said second handle portion being configured as a cavity for receiving said protuberance in said engaged position, said ends of each of said first segments curving continuously inwardly and upwardly from said second segments, respectively, in the direction of said opening in said engaged position, whereby said first segments are disposed closely alongside said front and back walls, respectively, in said fully disengaged position.

42. (New) The carrying case of claim 41, wherein said opening is selectively openable and selectively closable.

43. (New) The carrying case of claim 41, wherein said opening comprises a zippered opening.

44. (New) The carrying case of claim 41, wherein said first segments comprise arcuate segments, respectively, and said second segments comprise straight segments, respectively.

45. (New) The carrying case of claim 41, wherein said mating surfaces comprise inner surfaces, respectively, of said first segments.

46. (New) The carrying case of claim 45, wherein said first segments have top surfaces, respectively, joined to said inner surfaces and forming lips, respectively, where said top surfaces join said inner surfaces, said lips being in abutment when said handle portions are in said engaged position.

47. (New) The carrying case of claim 41, wherein said protuberance has a convex curvature and said cavity has a concave curvature resisting disengagement of said first and second handle portions from said engaged position.

48. (New) The carrying case of claim 41, wherein said protuberance is convexly curved and tapers in height and width in the direction of said ends of said first segment of said first handle portion.

49. (New) The carrying case of claim 41, wherein said ends of each of said first segments curve from said second segments, respectively, at about a 45° angle in said engaged position.

50. (New) The carrying case of claim 41, wherein said second segments are mounted within sleeve formations on said enclosure.

51. (New) A carrying case comprising

an enclosure defining an interior and having a front wall, back wall, and a zippered opening permitting access to said interior; and

a handle including first and second handle portions each comprising a first segment rotatably mounted on said enclosure on opposite sides of said opening, respectively, and a second segment connecting opposite ends of said first segment, said second segments having central longitudinal axes, respectively, defining parallel axes about which said first segments are rotatable, respectively, for movement between an engaged position, wherein said first segments are in abutment, and a fully disengaged position, wherein said first segments are separated from one another,

said first segments each having mating means, respectively, for mating in said engaged position, said ends of each of said first segments curving continuously inwardly and upwardly from said second segments, respectively, in the direction of said opening in said engaged position, whereby said first segments are disposed closely alongside said front and back walls, respectively, in said fully disengaged position.

52. (New) The carrying case of claim 51, wherein said first segments comprise arcuate segments, respectively, and said second segments comprise straight segments, respectively.

53. (New) The carrying case of claim 51, wherein said mating means of said first and second handle portions each comprise mating surfaces, respectively, of complementary configurations to mate in said engaged position.

54. (New) The carrying case of claim 53, wherein said mating surfaces comprise inner surfaces, respectively, of said first segments.

55. (New) The carrying case of claim 54, wherein said first segments have top surfaces, respectively, joined to said inner surfaces and forming lips, respectively, where said top surfaces join said inner surfaces, said lips being in abutment when said handle portions are in said engaged position.
56. (New) The carrying case of claim 53, wherein said mating surface of said first handle portion is configured as a protuberance and said mating surface of said second handle portion is configured as a cavity for receiving said protuberance.
57. (New) The carrying case of claim 56 wherein said protuberance has a convex curvature and said cavity has a concave curvature resisting disengagement of said first and second handle portions from said engaged position.
58. (New) The carrying case of claim 56, wherein said protuberance is convexly curved and tapers in height and width in the direction of said ends of said first segment of said first handle portion.
59. (New) The carrying case of claim 51, wherein said ends of each of said first segments curve from said second segments, respectively, at about a 45° angle in said engaged position.
60. (New) The carrying case of claim 51, wherein said second segments are mounted within sleeve formations on said enclosure.

61. (New) A handle for a carrying case that includes an enclosure defining an interior and having a front wall, a back wall, and an opening that provides access to the interior, the handle comprising:

first and second handle portions each comprising a first segment adapted for rotatable mounting on the enclosure on opposite sides of the opening, respectively, and a second segment connecting opposite ends of said first segment, said second segments having central longitudinal axes, respectively, adapted to define parallel axes about which said first segments are rotatable, respectively, for movement between an engaged position, wherein said first segments are in abutment, and a fully disengaged position, wherein said first segments are separated from one another,

said first segments having mating surfaces, respectively, of complementary configurations to mate in said engaged position, said ends of each of said first segments adapted to curve continuously inwardly and upwardly from said second segments, respectively, in the direction of the opening in said engaged position, whereby said first segments are disposed closely alongside the front and back walls, respectively, in said fully disengaged position.

62. (New) The handle of claim 61, wherein said first segments comprise arcuate segments, respectively, and said second segments comprise straight segments, respectively.

63. (New) The handle of claim 61, wherein said mating surfaces comprise inner surfaces, respectively of said segments.

64. (New) The handle of claim 63, wherein said first segments have top surfaces, respectively, joined to said inner surfaces and forming lips, respectively, where said top surfaces join said inner surfaces, said lips being in abutment when said handle portions are in said engaged position.

65. (New) The handle of claim 61, wherein said mating surface of said first handle portion is configured as a protuberance and said mating surface of said second handle portion is configured as a cavity for receiving said protuberance.

66. (New) The handle of claim 65, wherein said protuberance has a convex curvature and said cavity has a concave curvature resisting disengagement of said first and second handle portions from said engaged position.

67. (New) The handle of claim 65, wherein said protuberance is convexly curved and tapers in height and width in the direction of said ends of said first segment of said first handle portion.

68. (New) The handle of claim 61, wherein said ends of each of said first segments curve from said second segments, respectively, at about a 45° angle in said engaged position.

69. (New) The handle of claim 61, wherein said second segments are adapted for mounting within sleeve formations on the enclosure.